

SUGAR and PLANTATION

CONDITIONS GOOD FOR SUGAR CROP OF AT LEAST AVERAGE

In Spite of Labor Shortage Next Year Should Show Outturn Equal To the Last

NEED OF LABOR WILL BE EARLY IN SUMMER

Smaller Area Has Been Planted For Following Year and Decrease Must Then Come

Provided there can be obtained the necessary labor for the cutting of the cane next spring and early summer when the juices are at their best, or if climatic conditions are such that the cane does not reach its best stage until a little later, there is reason to expect a splendid production of Hawaiian sugar, a crop considerably in excess of that of this year.

The 1919 crop has not had the setbacks that the 1918 crop had. It is true that conditions looked bad on Maui and in the dry sections of Hawaii last fall, but later, practically all made up for the setback of the drought and some fields were entirely or almost entirely replanted when the drought ended. On such plantations the costs will be higher but the increased price will help make up for this.

Conditions Good

It is generally agreed in all of the reports from all of the islands that the next cane looks fine. It is true that grass and weeds have come up in some of the fields but for the past several weeks, ever since the call of the general strike, the cane has been growing more and more and has been engaged in the harvest of this crop and the planting of the 1920. Now attention can be given to the cultivation of the next crop. Thus there remains several months to bring in labor or to secure labor from some source before the cane is at its best in July. Usually this comes late in April, in May and in June. In such event it will be too soon to utilize school labor but some times climatic conditions are such that the cane matures later and if this be the case next year school labor, even more extensively than this year, might be used. There is, too, the possibility, or at least there is the hope, that some source of supply may meantime be found.

Word From Washington

Royal D. Mead, manager of the Sugar Planters' labor bureau, is expected back from Washington within the next few days. He may have something to report on the labor situation but hopes are not large that he will bring any definite promises of relief. He can perhaps give some definite information of what hopes for securing Oriental labor may be entertained.

After a long delay, during a year of which the question has been actively agitated, the territory has at length sufficiently awakened to take an active stand for Chinese labor, or at least the business community has finally been awakened and now commercial organizations are in line with resolutions. It is reported, however, that since the chamber of commerce is now on record as favoring the bringing of Chinese labor nothing more will be done until Kuhn finishes his campaign. The primary campaign closes October 1 but a new campaign will start almost immediately and last another month so there is, apparently, to be nothing done for about six weeks longer. Then it may be that a delegation will be sent to Washington to carry the proposal there and support the Kuhn bill.

Planters On Record

For the first time the Planters may be said to be on record for E. Faxon Bishop, chairman of the labor committee, has spoken clearly and forcibly and it may be assumed that he represented the Planters in so doing. Heretofore it has been the open policy of the Planters to say a statement of conditions before officials in Washington and report the relief that was offered and they deliberately refrained from openly advocating the admission of Chinese labor.

Possible Relief

It appears to be considered unlikely that any remedial legislation could be secured before the end of this session. War measures are occupying the attention of the national legislature and it is unlikely that either party or enough of both parties to give a majority, would on the eve of election vote for the admission of Oriental labor when organized labor is still opposed to it. After election there might be a "change of sentiment" but it is safe

GOVERNMENT FIXES PRICES FOR JAVAS

Effect Upon New York Markets Believed To Be Negligible By Sugar Brokers

NEW YORK, September 26. According to advices received from Java, the Netherlands Indies government has finally taken the step of establishing minimum prices for Java sugars. The prices fixed are 2 1/2 guilders for new crop superior and 2 guilders for old crop superior. These figures are equivalent to present exchange rates, to 2.50 and 2.00 cents per pound, respectively.

Advance On Current Rates

The prices that established represent an advance of one-half cent per pound, or about 1.50 cents per hundred pounds, over the current quotations at the end of June, as reported by the Batavia Market Report and Prices Current. Quotations at that date were 6.75 guilders for new crop and 6.50 guilders for old crop superior sugars, roughly equivalent to 2.54 and 2.44 cents per pound, respectively.

Effectiveness is apparently to be given to the new official prices by the use of the government's power of control over exports, as it is stated that export licenses will not be granted for sugars sold below the fixed prices.

Effect Awaited

In trade circles here interested in the East Indian market the news of the Netherlands Indies government's action was received with great interest, and with much speculation as to its probable effect upon the future marketing of Javans abroad and especially upon the negotiations that have been on foot for disposing of a considerable quantity of Java sugar in the United States.

In general the opinion held was that this effect would be negligible, as the main obstacle to marketing the Java crop at the present time is not price, but lack of available tonnage.

To Assist Producers

The government's action is considered in these quarters to have been dictated primarily by the desire to introduce greater stability into the Java market and so to assist the producers in obtaining necessary loans for financing their crops. The establishment of fixed minimum prices, it is pointed out, will contribute to this result in two ways. First, by keeping prices from sinking to a level below the actual cost of making sugar; and second, by giving the banks a stable basis on which to figure in making loans.

The need for such a basis has been increasingly apparent, it is said by men familiar with conditions in Java, as the banks have been growing more and more chary of making advances as the price of sugar has declined, on the ground that there was no visible horizon for the market under the conditions heretofore existing.

Followers Bad Slump

An attempt to remedy these conditions, through concerted action for the maintenance of prices, was made by the sugar producers following the slump in the market last year. At that time Java producers had been growing more and more chary of making advances as the price of sugar has declined, on the ground that there was no visible horizon for the market under the conditions heretofore existing.

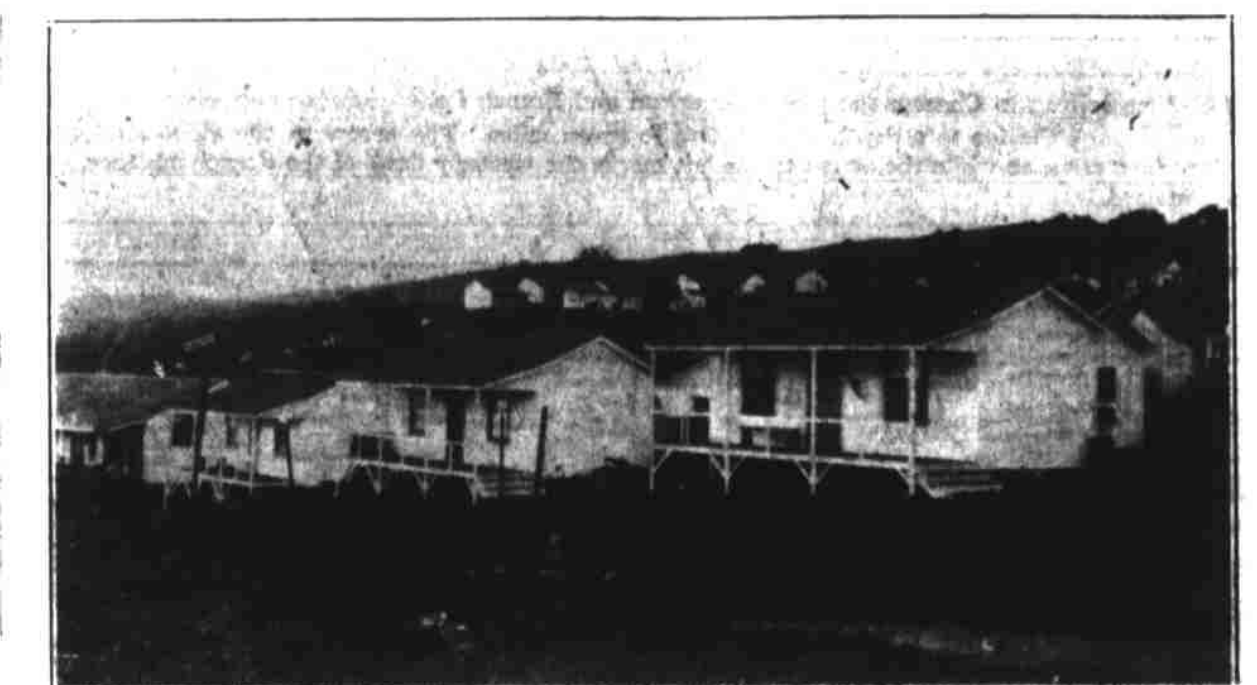
It is believed, therefore, that this demonstration of the inability of the sugar men to cope with the problem by their own efforts, coupled with representations by the producers and the banking houses of the necessity for more adequate measures, have had much to do with bringing about the action now taken by the government.

A commission, representing all the principal industries of the Netherlands Indies was appointed some months ago to consider and report upon economic and industrial problems, and while no information as to the conclusions reached by the commission has been received in this country, it is suggested, also, that in all likelihood its findings have been the effect of spurring the government authorities to action.

To forecast in case of at least no favorable vote will be given to Kuhn's measure of this session, and this would delay action until early next year at the best.

The 1919 crop has already suffered from labor shortage. A smaller area has been planted and the time for planting is almost over. This is looking more than one year ahead but for the immediate future there is hope for a crop that will be as large or larger than that of this year.

PLANTATION cottages wait occupants. Scores of cottages of this type on the various plantations of the Islands are awaiting occupants. The draft and the call of the guard, the departure of many Portuguese for the mainland because of the lure of higher wages in munition and other highly paid occupations, have left many of these cottages, built to accommodate the plantation worker who has a family, tenantless.



SUGAR YEAR COMES TO END ON MONDAY

Supply Yet To Be Shipped Smaller Than Hoped But Nearly Double Last Year's

Sugar shipments for September, up to yesterday, have been 45,783 tons of which 36,875 tons were Sugar Factors and 8,908 tons were Western sugar. Indian tons were that before the close of the sugar year, which will end next Monday night, at least 10,000 tons more will leave the Islands. From Hilo, especially, reports are good and the end of the sugar year is expected to see all of the Hilo sugar, with the sole exception of Hamakua mill, cleared out. There will then still remain for shipment, assuming that this month's departures are 55,000 tons, about 80,000 tons as against some 45,000 tons last year.

This year's crop was approximately 55,000 tons smaller than that of last year so figures show that shipments to the close of the sugar year have been about 100,000 tons short of those to the same date in 1917.

With the vessels now loading sugar, or soon to load, movements for the first few days of next month promise to be lively and the activity at Washington to keep up the supplies of sugar on the mainland indicates that the move for the month of October may be equal to those of this month, and would leave only about 20,000 tons of the present crop to move in November and December.

In the amount of sugar that still remains to be shipped, or to be ground and shipped is reflected the labor shortage for the harvest has been somewhat delayed in the ground and then came the labor shortage.

It works some hardships on the bank keeping system of the plantations to have this amount of late sugar for a September 30 close of the sugar year necessitates a lot of carrying over.

ARRANGEMENTS TO SHIP MOLASSES INCOMPLETE

Final arrangements for the marketing of molasses by the Sugar Factors Company have not yet been completed, reports to the effect that all arrangements had been made notwithstanding. So far as the marketing arrangement for the molasses is concerned, it is understood that little left to be done, it is understood, and few obstacles in the way. As yet the matter of suitable ship tonnage has not been settled and it is expected that this will come in due season. All of the molasses carriers have been taken off and the new vessels that have been carrying sugar are not yet fitted for the taking of molasses. As the government desires the sugar as an incentive to sugar conservation, it is considered likely that the necessary arrangements will be completed.

SORGHUM SYRUP FORECAST

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26. Production of sorghum syrup in the United States this year is estimated by the Department of Agriculture, on the basis of August crop reports, at 31,200,000 gallons, or 22,500,000 gallons less than in 1917. The area in sorghum cane is given as 351,704 acres, which is 94 percent of the total prospective production is assigned to Alabama, with Kentucky, Tennessee and Missouri following.

TRINIDAD'S SHORTAGE

Trinidad's sugar production for the season of 1917-18, just closed, has been the smallest of any year since 1912-13, the total output, according to figures compiled by Edgar Topp and Company, being only 50,087 short tons, as against 79,398 tons for last year.

SUGAR MAY BE USED FOR PRESERVING MEAT

Preferable To Salt In Some Respects But Costs More

A note in the Queensland Agricultural Journal, draws attention to the employment of sugar instead of salt as a preservative for meat. It is stated that hams may be placed in "pickle," if it is possible so to call it, of sugar and molasses. The fresh hams are first well rubbed with powdered sugar, and left undisturbed for some weeks.

When cooked the meat does not present the red appearance of the hams cured in salt, but looks more like fresh pork. The taste, however, is said to be like that of ham, only a little sweeter. It is stated in the same journal that experiments have been made under the direction of the French minister of agriculture, which demonstrate that sugar possesses some advantages over salt as an agent for preserving meat. It is pointed out that salt absorbs a portion of the nutritive substances and of the flavor of the meat, and the more deeply it enters the tissues so much the more readily does it deprive meat of some nutritive substances of genuine importance. Powdered sugar, on the contrary, forms round the meat a sort of solid crust, which removes very little more from the meat, and does not alter its taste. It is sufficient to immerse the meat in water, before cooking.

HUNDRED BEET MILLS ARE READY FOR GRIND

SAN FRANCISCO, August 29. (Associated Press.) Just 100 sugar beet mills in the United States are now ready to turn out sugar to furnish energy to our soldiers as soon as the harvesting of the sugar beet crop begins, according to advices received from the United States department of agriculture.

Sixteen of the mills, with capacities ranging from a few hundred tons to 300 tons each twenty four hours, were built in 1917 to help handle the 1918 crop. Seventeen mills were built in 1916 in Wyoming, Idaho, Nebraska, Utah, Oregon, Colorado, Montana, Iowa, California and Washington. California had the first sugar beet mill in the United States. This was built in 1870.

BEET SUGAR CROPS PROBABLY DECREASE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3. Announcing that "Need for additional sugar conservation in the United States is reflected by estimates of our domestic beet sugar crop this year," the food administration, in a statement issued today, says that after securing and averaging estimates from the three most trustworthy sources available, it finds a probable decrease in domestic beet sugar production of 3.2 percent, compared with last year.

AMPLE SUPPLIES OF FERTILIZER COMING

Sulphate of Ammonia Shipments Will Be Resumed From Chile Are Secured From Chile

There will be no shortage of fertilizers for many months to come, if at all, provided that promises are kept. Not only has a supply of nitrates sufficient to last more than seven months been promised but there will also be a supply of sulphate ammonia, a fertilizer which some of the Hawaiian plantations prefer to the Chilean Nitrates.

Ample supplies were received by the fertilizer company this week telling the local office to expect shipments which have been prevented for several months past. This company will receive the sulphates of ammonia previously sought under the old contracts and not delivered and several thousand tons besides. Since the embargo was placed on sales of this fertilizer at that has come here has been brought from Canada where there has been no embargo.

On the nitrate situation the news continues to improve. Cargoes are on the way. It is understood that shipping arrangements for all of the 150,000 tons first released have been perfected and other shipping arrangements made for the movement of the first 10,000 tons of the additional 20,000 which would mean that arrangements for the moving of 25,000 tons have been made, a five months' supply, and that there is available 10,000 tons for which shipping arrangements yet have to be made.

When there existed a feeling of alarm as to the receipt of fertilizers, it was said that 5000 tons of two fertilizers would be needed each month for several months to keep the fields in full productive condition. The recent news assures a supply for more than seven months on this basis or a larger supply for that many months. It is expected, however, that reasonable economy will be exercised to forestall a shortage later if similar conditions arise.

The fertilizer companies were able to tide over a delicate situation and to make deliveries of an amount that was just sufficient to meet the most urgent requirements at a time that was admittedly critical. There was a sense thrown into the planters, but it turned out that the day could be saved and it has been. How serious it was regarded was shown by the steps taken when Secretary Lane was here.

Now the fertilizer bog has been dismounted with the shipping bog and the worry over prices and the planters are left with a single cause for worry, the labor shortage.

ROCKY FORD CAMPAIGN

The American beet sugar factory at Rocky Ford, Colorado, will open its campaign October 10, according to Manager Noble. The labor problem has been possibly the hardest problem to solve, but the Mexican people who for years have been under the bond of revolution are glad to emerge, at least for a time, from their hard and are coming in increasing numbers to some of the farms in the southern part of the United States. They even help in the cantaloupe and cucumber fields.

MUST USE CARE

The old custom long in vogue in Louisiana of selling an entire output of a factor to one purchaser has to be practiced now with close attention to the rules and regulations requiring certificates for all sugar sold, and the ten day rule prohibiting any manufacturer from selling more than ten days ahead.

Louisiana Wails At Shortage Of Labor For Sugar

Planter Denies Report That Workers Can Be Had If Paid Sufficiently and Says Many Planters Will Abandon Cane Crop

Most pessimistic on the subject of the Louisiana sugar crop and labor conditions the Louisiana Planter in its issue of September 7 says the state has been drained of labor and farmers are expected to abandon cane growing.

The Planter has been inclined to bitterness on all points connected with sugar control and the government has handled it and usually refers to the sugar committee as the "national sugar committee of refiners."

Its article of the labor situation follows: "Planters protest loudly this week against the statements made by certain agents of the government employment boards to the effect that if the sugar growers were willing to pay money for their field labor they could get all that they wanted. This is not so, and figures and facts prove that these declarations are extremely incorrect."

"It has been authoritatively estimated that something like 50,000 laborers have left Louisiana to become employed in the fabulously high wage districts of the United States. It has also been estimated that the draft has taken 20,000 laborers from the state, and if we add to this total of 70,000 laborers out of the State that were at one time in it, the 10,000 who have found employment within the State in new war industries, at wages that under present sugar price conditions the sugar planters cannot commence to think about paying them, we shall have a grand total of 80,000 men taken out of the agricultural labor class which had, before the war, been hardly adequate to meet the sugar belt and other agricultural sections' needs."

The labor outlook has not one more ray of hope now than it had a month or two months ago. Everybody is working hard to try to solve it, but the only solution possible seems to be a high enough price for sugar to justify very much higher wages. Some Texas farmers and hands in districts of that State that were damaged by the drought of this summer are expected to come for the sugar harvest, and there is still considerable effort being made along Mexican lines.

"The weather continues warm and dry and the cane is, therefore, showing remarkable development. None of the planters have yet started to talk of starting to grind, while the thought of the planters is now turning to the subject of cooler weather soon. Maturing temperatures will soon be desirable."

"In Plaquemine Parish, under the influence of rains about two weeks ago the cane for the new Stella factory has jumped ahead considerably. It is overly high and thick. Elsewhere on the east bank the cane looks very satisfactory. Harlem plantation, in Plaquemine, has a very creditable crop of cane this year."

"The only spots in the sugar belt where rain was had in the past week were Franklin, Opelousa and New Orleans, and the rainfall in all of these sections put together would not equal two inches in the last week. It has been an exceptionally dry week in the sugar cane parishes."

"There is a steadily growing feeling among sugar cane men against the planting of cane for next year. A report from St. Martin says that the planters feeling that the price of sugar is not in keeping with the cost of other products and price of production, are disposed to abandon cane growing and go into other less expensive crops. The report adds that it would not surprise the reporter to see stubble as the only cane grown in some section of St. Martin for the next year's crop. This feeling is prevalent all over the belt and is not confined to any particular parish or locality."

KLEMMER SAYS HE IS LOYAL AMERICAN

Refuses To Resign From Street Car Company

Maintaining that he was a loyal American, despite the fact that he was president of the Hermanns Soehne, a German organization which is now being investigated by the federal authorities, Emil Klemme, an employee of the Rapid Transit Company refused to resign from his position in the face of a petition signed by thirty or more of his co-workers, who asked for his dismissal.

Klemme said yesterday that he was a resident of the Territory for the past thirty years and that he became a naturalized citizen fifteen years ago. He said that his wife and not he had bought \$600 worth of German bonds, which she gave to a nephew, who had been crippled in the war. He said that the Hermanns Soehne was an American institution, that it was now being investigated by the federal au-

PETRIE BACK TELLS OF NEW PRICE RAWS

Understanding When He Left Washington Was It Affected New Sugar Crops Only

None of the old crop sugar will get the new price is the announcement which T. H. Petrie, one of the "committee men" from the Planter's Association which visited the capital to tell the food administration of costs of production of Hawaiian sugar and the price that was necessary to make the industry profitable and to encourage production. He says that the understanding was, when he left Washington, that the new price of 7.38 for raw, was not to go into effect on some day certain but was to affect the new crops as they came in.

Mr. Petrie left Washington the day after the price was announced and since that time the cable advices that have been received here, in reply to inquiries, indicate that the new price will go into effect at some date certain when the first deliveries of the new Cuban crop are made.

Sugar men here consider it unlikely that, irrespective of the time of harvesting and grinding, sugar that arrived from Cuba in mid-December, new crop, should receive a higher price than sugar which is received from Hawaii on the same day and equally that some bags of sugar from Hawaii received at the refinery points in January should receive a higher price than other bags, arriving on the same steamer, the one being old and the other new crop raws. "But then," as one shipper expressed it, "some funny things are being done in these days." So it may be that Mr. Petrie has the correct information. Up to the time he left Washington there had been no time for discussion of such points. He says, however, that in the discussion of prices the matter of a date was not mentioned, the discussion centering entirely on what the new crop would receive.

Mr. Petrie was unable to say what if any results had been secured on the labor situation. Mr. Mead had that subject in hand and will be back within the next few days when he can speak for himself. The labor problem, in all branches of industry is the big problem on the mainland just as it is in the sugar and pineapple industries in this territory and this affects the skilled and the unskilled. With hundreds of thousands from other classes taken for the army and the navy and hundreds of thousands more taken for essential war industries production, every other industry is cramped for labor as never before.

Mr. Petrie, with J. W. Waldron and R. D. Mead, went to Washington as a committee of the Planter's Association the chief purpose of their trip being to present Hawaii's case in regard to price for the next crop raws. The price secured was even better than had been hoped for at home but, as Mr. Petrie expressed it, "no higher than required to assure a fair profit" with costs as high as they are and most of the history Mr. Waldron, chairman of the committee and will return on the next steamer from Vancouver. Mr. Mead will reach home before him.

Speaking of general conditions on the mainland Mr. Petrie said that Washington is a city with a population more than half as large again as it is able to properly house and accommodate. Great wealth has been created there where there were only small ones before, new ones have been created, and government business and government employees have been multiplied many times.

Thousands of young men, girls, old men and women are now employed in these offices and Mr. Petrie wondered how some of them were able to get along on salaries as low as \$10 a week, with costs so high and still reaching higher. In New York, he found conditions little changed, the city as bustling and busy and crowded as ever, but women more in evidence in business life than ever before.

It is war and preparation for winning the war everywhere on the mainland and Honolulu seems quiet and slow because the war is in preparation.

Not all of the employees of the Rapid Transit Company signed the petition asking for Klemme's removal. Among the majority of Klemme's co-workers, the general opinion seems to be that this is a matter that should be investigated and settled by the management. Manager Stuart Johnson said last night that as far as he knew, Klemme was O. K. as far as his Americanism was concerned. He said that he would make a thorough investigation of the matter, however, and that if there was any question as to Klemme's loyalty, he would have to go.

Miss Okubo, a young Japanese nurse who arrived here recently from Japan, was yesterday denied entry into Hawaii on a ground that she is not a graduate nurse, and is detained at the local federal immigration station. She is a girl of sixteen years of age and is a graduate of a nurses' training school in the Niigata prefecture, Japan, but as she was graduated from the school after attending only a year the local immigration officials ruled that she cannot be considered as a graduate nurse. She came here to work as a nurse at the new Japanese hospital in this city.

JAPAN SENDING BUSINESS ENVOY TO THIS COUNTRY

Vice President of Tokio Chamber of Commerce Coming To United States

Reizo Yamashina, vice-president of the Tokio chamber of commerce, the largest commercial organization in Japan, has been named by that body as an unofficial "business ambassador" to the United States, according to word received here from Tokio. He will visit the United States in the near